

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An interactive television program guide system in which an interactive television program guide is at least partially implemented on user equipment of a user, comprising:

means for supplying program listings to the interactive television program guide;

means for supplying information on certain simple categories of programming and certain combination categories of programming that are associated with the program listings;

means for displaying a selectable list simultaneously displaying both the simple categories and the combination categories on the user equipment with the interactive television program guide, wherein the simple categories and combination categories are simultaneously selectable from the selectable list; and

means for searching for program listings with the interactive television program guide that match a given category selected from the selectable list by the user and displaying the matching program listings with the interactive television program guide on the user equipment.

Claim 2 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

a main facility at which the program listings are assigned certain ones of the combination categories each of which is composed of certain ones of the simple categories using a combination category build process in which a number of simple categories associated with each program listing are compared to a list of supported combination categories and a given combination category is assigned to each program listing when the simple categories associated with that program listing match the simple categories from which the given combination category is composed.

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Claim 3 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1, further comprising:

means for supplying a list of supported combination categories, wherein the means for displaying a selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories comprises means for displaying the categories based on the list of supported combination categories.

Claim 4 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for searching for program listings and displaying the matching program listings further comprises means for displaying the matching program listings in a display that only contains matching program listings.

Claim 5 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for searching for program listings and displaying the matching program listings further comprises means for distinctively displaying the matching program listings in a display that contains matching and nonmatching program listings.

Claim 6 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 5 wherein the means for distinctively displaying further comprises means for displaying the matching program listings in a distinctive color.

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Claim 7 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 5 wherein the means for distinctively displaying further comprises means for displaying the matching program listings with distinctive labels.

Claim 8 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list.

Claim 9 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and to designate an order of placement

on the selectable list for that given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the selected given programming category in the designated order.

Claim 10 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to delete a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category deleted.

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Claim 11 (previously presented): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category reordered to the top of the selectable list.

Claim 12 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for automatically rearranging the selectable list with the program guide based on how frequently the user selects certain categories from the selectable list.

Claim 13 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for allowing the user to designate certain categories as favorites.

Claim 14 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 13 further comprising means for displaying the selectable list of categories based on the selected favorite categories.

Claim 15 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein the user equipment is personal computer equipment.

Claim 16 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein the user equipment is user television equipment.

Claim 17 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

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a television distribution facility connected to the user equipment for providing the program listings and television programming to the user equipment.

Claim 18 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein the program listings are provided to the user equipment over the Internet.

Claim 19 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein at least one of the simple categories is selected from the group consisting of sports, comedy, news, children's programming, movies, and adult programming.

Claim 20 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1 wherein at least one

of the combination categories is selected from the group consisting of sports-comedy, sports-baseball, comedy-movies, comedy-series, and horror-movies.

Claim 21 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 1, wherein each one of categories in the selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories has at least one program listing associated with the category.

Claim 22 (currently amended): An interactive television program guide system comprising:

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an interactive television program guide at least partially implemented on user television equipment of a user configured to display a selectable list simultaneously displaying both certain simple categories of programming and certain combination categories of programming that are associated with program listings on the user equipment, to search for program listings that match a given category selected from the selectable list by the user, and to display the matching program listings with the interactive television program guide on the user equipment, wherein the simple categories and combination categories are simultaneously selectable from the selectable list; and

distribution equipment configured to supply the program listings to the interactive television program guide and to supply the information on the simple categories and the combination categories of programming.

Claim 23 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 further comprising:

a main facility at which the program listings are assigned certain ones of the combination categories each of which is composed of certain ones of the simple categories using a combination category build process in which a number of simple categories associated with each program listing are compared to a list of supported combination categories and a given combination category is assigned to each program listing when the simple categories associated with that program listing match the simple categories from which the given combination category is composed.

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Claim 24 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22, further comprising:

a main facility that supplies a list of supported combination categories, wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to display the categories based on the list of supported combination categories.

Claim 25 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to display the matching program listings in a display that only contains matching program listings.

Claim 26 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the

interactive television program guide is configured to distinctively display the matching program listings in a display that contains matching and nonmatching program listings.

Claim 27 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 26 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to display the matching program listings in a distinctive color.

Claim 28 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 26 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to display the matching program listings with distinctive labels.

Claim 29 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to allow the user to rearrange the selectable list.

Claim 30 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to allow the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and to designate an order of placement on the selectable list for that given programming category and by redisplaying

the selectable list with the selected given programming category in the designated order.

Claim 31 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to allow the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to delete a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category deleted.

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Claim 32 (previously presented): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to allow the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category reordered to the top of the selectable list.

Claim 33 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to automatically rearrange the selectable list with the program guide based on how frequently the user selects certain categories from the selectable list.

Claim 34 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein interactive

television program guide is configured to allow the user to designate certain categories as favorites.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 34 wherein the interactive television program guide is configured to display the selectable list of categories based on the selected favorite categories.

Claim 36 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the user equipment is personal computer equipment.

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Claim 37 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the user equipment is user television equipment.

Claim 38 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 further comprising:
a television distribution facility connected to the user equipment for providing the program listings and television programming to the user equipment.

Claim 39 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein the program listings are provided to the user equipment over the Internet.

Claim 40 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein at least one of the simple categories is selected from the group

consisting of sports, comedy, news, children's programming, movies, and adult programming.

Claim 41 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22 wherein at least one of the combination categories is selected from the group consisting of sports-comedy, sports-baseball, comedy-movies, comedy-series, and horror-movies.

Claim 42 (original): The interactive television program guide system defined in claim 22, wherein each one of categories in the selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories has at least one program listing associated with the category.

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Claim 43 (currently amended): A method for using an interactive television program guide system in which an interactive television program guide is at least partially implemented on user equipment of a user, comprising:

supplying program listings to the interactive television program guide;

supplying information on certain simple categories of programming and certain combination categories of programming that are associated with the program listings;

displaying a selectable list simultaneously displaying both the simple categories and the combination categories on the user equipment with the interactive television program guide, wherein the simple categories and

combination categories are simultaneously selectable from the selectable list; and

searching for program listings with the interactive television program guide that match a given category selected from the selectable list by the user and displaying the matching program listings with the interactive television program guide on the user equipment.

Claim 44 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

assigning to the program listings certain ones of the combination categories each of which is composed of certain ones of the simple categories using a combination category build process in which a number of simple categories associated with each program listing are compared to a list of supported combination categories and a given combination category is assigned to each program listing when the simple categories associated with that program listing match the simple categories from which the given combination category is composed.

Claim 45 (original): The method defined in claim 43, further comprising:

supplying a list of supported combination categories, wherein the displaying the selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories comprises displaying the categories based on the list of supported combination categories.

Claim 46 (original): The method defined in claim 43 wherein searching for program listings and displaying the matching program listings further comprises displaying the matching program listings in a display that only contains matching program listings.

Claim 47 (original): The method defined in claim 43 wherein searching for program listings and displaying the matching program listings further comprises distinctively displaying the matching program listings in a display that contains matching and nonmatching program listings.

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Claim 48 (previously presented): The method defined in claim 47 wherein distinctively displaying further comprises displaying the matching program listings in a distinctive color.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The method defined in claim 47 wherein distinctively displaying further comprises displaying the matching program listings with distinctive labels.

Claim 50. (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list.

Claim 51 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and to designate an order of placement on the selectable list for that given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the selected given programming category in the designated order.

Claim 52 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to delete a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category deleted.

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Claim 53 (previously presented): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category reordered to the top of the selectable list.

Claim 54 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

automatically rearranging the selectable list with the program guide based on how frequently the user selects certain categories from the selectable list.

Claim 55 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

allowing the user to designate certain categories as favorites.

Claim 56 (original): The method defined in claim 55 further comprising:

displaying the selectable list of categories based on the selected favorite categories.

Claim 57 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

providing a television distribution facility connected to the user equipment for providing the program listings and television programming to the user equipment.

Claim 58 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

providing the program listings to the user equipment over the Internet.

Claim 59 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

selecting at least one of the simple categories from the group consisting of sports, comedy, news, children's programming, movies, and adult programming.

Claim 60 (original): The method defined in claim 43 further comprising:

selecting at least one of the combination categories is selected from the group consisting of sports-comedy, sports-baseball, comedy-movies, comedy-series, and horror-movies.

Claim 61 (original): The method defined in claim 43, wherein the displaying the selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories comprises displaying each of one of the categories having at least one program listing associated with the category.

Claim 62 (previously presented): Machine-readable media for use in an interactive television program guide system in which an interactive television program guide is at least partially implemented on user equipment of a user, wherein the media is encoded with machine-readable instructions for performing the method comprising:

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supplying program listings to the interactive television program guide;

supplying information on certain simple categories of programming and certain combination categories of programming that are associated with the program listings;

displaying a selectable list simultaneously displaying both the simple categories and the combination categories on the user equipment with the interactive television program guide, wherein the simple categories and combination categories are simultaneously selectable from the selectable list; and

searching for program listings with the interactive television program guide that match a given category selected from the selectable list by the user and

displaying the matching program listings with the interactive television program guide on the user equipment.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

assigning to the program listings certain ones of the combination categories each of which is composed of certain ones of the simple categories using a combination category build process in which a number of simple categories associated with each program listing are compared to a list of supported combination categories and a given combination category is assigned to each program listing when the simple categories associated with that program listing match the simple categories from which the given combination category is composed.

Claim 64 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62, further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

supplying a list of supported combination categories, wherein the displaying the selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories comprises displaying the categories based on the list of supported combination categories.

Claim 65 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 wherein searching for program listings and displaying the matching program

listings further comprises displaying the matching program listings in a display that only contains matching program listings.

Claim 66 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 wherein searching for program listings and displaying the matching program listings further comprises distinctively displaying the matching program listings in a display that contains matching and nonmatching program listings.

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Claim 67 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 66 wherein distinctively displaying further comprises displaying the matching program listings in a distinctive color.

Claim 68 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 66 wherein distinctively displaying further comprises displaying the matching program listings with distinctive labels.

Claim 69 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list.

Claim 70 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and to designate an order of placement on the selectable list for that given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the selected given programming category in the designated order.

Claim 71 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

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allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to delete a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category deleted.

Claim 72 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

allowing the user to rearrange the selectable list by providing an option for the user to select a given programming category and by redisplaying the selectable list with the given programming category reordered to the top of the selectable list.

Claim 73 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

automatically rearranging the selectable list with the program guide based on how frequently the user selects certain categories from the selectable list.

Claim 74 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

allowing the user to designate certain categories as favorites.

Claim 75 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 74 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

displaying the selectable list of categories based on the selected favorite categories.

Claim 76 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

providing a television distribution facility connected to the user equipment for providing the program listings and television programming to the user equipment.

Claim 77 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

providing the program listings to the user equipment over the Internet.

Claim 78 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

selecting at least one of the simple categories from the group consisting of sports, comedy, news, children's programming, movies, and adult programming.

Claim 79 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 further encoded with machine-readable instructions for:

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selecting at least one of the combination categories from the group consisting of sports-comedy, sports-baseball, comedy-movies, comedy-series, and horror-movies.

Claim 80 (previously presented): The machine-readable media defined in claim 62 wherein the displaying the selectable list of the simple categories and combination categories comprises displaying each of one of the categories having at least one program listing associated with the category.
